

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

August 14, 2014

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor James Calnon, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Paul O'Connell (W4), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

Absent: None

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of a special meeting of the Common Council held on July 24, 2014 and the regular meeting of the Common Council held on July 31, 2014 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the weeks ending August 6, 2014 in the amount of \$ 606,538.22 and August 13, 2014 in the amount of \$ 294,174.20 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the weeks of July 31– August 13, 2014
- Report from the Building Inspector's office August 12, 2014
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for May and June 2014
- Finance Report of Revenue and Expenditures for the month of July 2014
- Statement from the City Clerk's Office of all monies received during the month of July 2014 in the total amount of \$19,783.14

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the weeks ending August 8, 2014 in the amount of \$ 962,879.02 and August 15, 2014 in the amount of \$ 508,366.97 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL: None

7. OTHER ITEMS:

Mayor Calnon announced that the resolution has been slightly altered during the work session to remove "First Weekends" from the resolution.

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Superintendent of Recreation to close Bridge Street from Margaret Street to So. Peru St to hold the USA Luge Slider Search on Saturday, September 6, 2014 from 3pm-9pm.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser
Discussion:

[Discussion ensued between council, Steve Peters and Mr. Nolan representing the USA Luge Slider search.]

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to increase the 2014 budget for the cost of unbudgeted River Walk expenditures to be appropriated from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance as per the attached budget amendment memo.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Engineer to advertise for bids for Contract # 2012-27 "Dock Street Marina Building Mold Remediation."

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Municipal Lighting Department be permitted to proceed with the write-off of unpaid final bills for the period March 1, 2013 to March 31, 2013 in the amount of \$4,900.09. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .24%.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2014-25 "Cumberland Avenue Pump Station Electrical Improvements" be awarded to M.Scher & Son, Inc. in the amount of \$94,830 and that the execution of all necessary paperwork be authorized.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Plattsburgh / Location code 20043 hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the time keeping system records or the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body:

Councilor Rebecca B. Kasper 8.92 Days/Month

Corporation Counsel Dean C. Schneller 10.57 Days/Month

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Discussion:

Councilor Armstrong asked if they will have a time clock.

Mayor Calnon indicated they had to give a 3 month study of their hours.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell and Kretser voted in the affirmative. Councilor Kasper recused herself)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

G. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Downtown Plattsburgh Historic Walking Tour Committee to place historic markers on City of Plattsburgh properties at 41 City Hall Place, 42 City Hall Place, 49-51 Bridge Street, 30 Cumberland Avenue, 109 Margaret Street, 19 Oak Street and 19 Trinity Place.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Discussion:

Councilor Kretser remarked that this was a great initiative and started from community interest.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

H. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Municipal Lighting Department to advertise for PMLD Bid No. 2014-8-1 "Purchase Padmounted Live Front Switchgear, S&C, Model no. PMH-7." Bid Opening date: September 8, 2014 at 11am.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Discussion:

Councilor O'Connell asked if just for bids then approved later on.
[further discussion ensued]

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

I. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves extending contractual benefits (due to job related injuries) for Officer Richard Tucker for an additional 12 weeks. His first 12 week period will expire on 08/15/14.

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kretser
Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from Councilor Kretser to name the alley, which runs from Oak Street to Marion Street at the south side of the First Baptist Church – 38 Oak Street. This alley will be named **Dawn Alley**; and appropriate signage shall be fabricated and installed on Oak Street and Marion Street by the Department of Public Works.

Mayor Calnon mentioned that this requires 911 approval and the request has been submitted.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Armstrong announced that the Economic and Cultural Development committee will meet after the work session on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at 6 pm.

Councilor Kasper inquired about Battle of Plattsburgh events and when the dedication of the new flag pole is.

Mayor Calnon indicated the flagpole dedication has not been finalized yet.

Councilor Kasper announced that September 6th at 10 am they will begin landscaping of Public Library all welcome to help. Plattsburgh Beautification Group is flower bombing the city. Thanked Mike Brodi for all the help. Asked about North Margaret.

[further discussion about North Margaret]

Councilor Dowdle inquired about Zombie and Blighted properties.

[further discussion ensued on Zombie and Blighted properties]

Councilor O’Connell spoke about witnessing 2 large boats parked at city docks that dumped their garbage and when he asked them they said the do it all the time. He feels we need enforcement down there and we are a city of doing nothing and I’m ashamed of being a representative of doing nothing.

Councilor Armstrong disagrees and things take time.

Mayor Calnon added the following resolution:

RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council hereby amends Resolution #7(C), which was approved by the Council at a regular meeting on July 17, 2014, as follows: Paragraph #5 from Resolution #7(C) stated that “5. Upon closing of the Transaction, New Franchisee shall remain bound by the lawful terms and conditions of the Franchise” and this section shall be amended by adding the following language to the end of this sentence: “5. Upon closing of the Transaction, New Franchisee shall remain bound by the lawful terms and conditions of the Franchise and shall assume all of the current Franchisee’s obligations and liabilities, known and unknown.”

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jean-Pierre Turgeon of Omnium Champlain Sailing Regatta asked to use the city docks for the regatta during Labor Day weekend.

Mayor Calnon indicated this has been going on for a number of years. And in fact the way the dock is arranged now with an open dock you don’t really need out permission to use it or if you need priority I am actually empowered to give you that. What I would suggest, because I am absolutely certain we will have a fully functioning marina by next summer, you might want to get a request to us sometime in July. Because next year it will take a council resolution and give us some more advanced time.

Jean-Pierre Turgeon said if you will allow I will have signs about events and have people making sure boats don’t park there and leave for 2 days.

Mayor Calnon said we will have some folks who will be transferring in and out during the day and there will need to be some dock space available for that but no parking.

Councilor Kelly said we need him on our team. This is a person who knows a great deal about boating and sailing here on Lake Champlain and that’s fantastic. I’d like to invite you to get involved with us if you can and help us get to that point where we have that world class marina on the waterfront. Your assistance and expert advice would be much appreciated.

Jean-Pierre Turgeon said I would love to help. I was one of the investors behind NAVTOURS with Mr. Dahlen and Mr. Duley.

Councilor Dowdle said you were part of it and you gave input before.

Jean-Pierre Turgeon said yes.

Councilor Dowdle said and we see what happened with that.

Motion to enter Executive Session at 6:24pm

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Roll call Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:58 pm